

JB 261
Oppose
Alcohol & Drug Services

speaking
how

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee. My name is Shelly Johnson, Director of Alcohol & Drug Services of Gallatin County Bozeman and a member of the Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana. I'm here to talk about funding and the cuts of 3.47% At Alcohol & Drug Services, we provide outpatient substance abuse and co-occurring services in Bozeman, Belgrade, Big Sky and West Yellowstone, as well as providing 1 men's and 1 women's transitional living facility for up to 7 individuals in each. We as well as the other 30+ treatment agencies across the state, provide services to every county in Montana, and bill the Department for Federal Block Monies to cover services. Services include Treatment, Room and Board, provide Rehab Aide, and Targeted Case Management for individuals in the houses needing a safe, sober living environment. But, as others have stated before me, we have not received our contracts nor have we received payment for services rendered for July, August and part of September. It is my understanding that the contracts are in the system with the state budget, waiting for approval, even though they are federal block grant dollars. Our budgets are very small with over 70% going to modest salaries for credentialed admin staff and counselors. These salaries cover prevention, education and treatment services for the enormous alcohol and drug epidemic facing our state. Not being paid for our services and getting cut 3.47% will have many treatment programs closing their transitional living facilities across the state and laying off the professionals providing the services. This will not only disrupt their lives but it will disrupt the life of the client, because they won't receive the help they need. Treatment providers will be dropping school-based services for adolescents and closing doors.

O P P O S E

Thank you for your time. I appreciate the difficult work and decisions you have to make on this issue.

from
Missoula

Me Too - Concur with my fellow
Provider Tamara Davis
Set as he part of the discussion

OFS - anti program

3:15 Shelly Johnson
Director
Alcohol & Drug
Services

Jan McElroy
Program Director
Livingston